

**Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
Volunteer Position Announcement
FY2012**

Project Title: Kittlitz's Murrelet Nesting Ecology Study

Location: Kodiak, AK

VOLUNTEER FIELD RESEARCH ASSISTANTS needed to assist with cooperative study of KITTLITZ'S MURRELET nesting ecology between May 10-Sep 20 (position #1) and May 10 - Aug 15 (position #2). Volunteers should have a positive mental attitude, be very fit, enjoy camping and strenuous hikes off-trail in mountainous terrain, and relish isolated duty in a challenging environment. Volunteers will spend the first 2 weeks in orientation, safety training, and preparation for field deployment. During the following 8 - 15 weeks, volunteers and refuge biologists will conduct the study out of remote camps located in mountain valleys of southwestern Kodiak Island. Successful applicants should be prepared for a full-immersion wilderness experience during this time, including basic camps with no amenities and infrequent re-supply/mail flights (1-3 times per summer). A final week will be spent in Kodiak summarizing records, debriefing staff, and storing field gear.

Study tasks will include: recording searching for nests on steep, rocky slopes, monitoring nesting biology; and habitat sampling around nest sites. Ideal candidates will have experience in conducting bird surveys or research, camping in extreme and isolated conditions, working in bear country, and have some GPS and/or GIS skills.

The Fish and Wildlife Service will pay round-trip airfare to Kodiak; provide shared housing while in Kodiak, and pay all field costs except personal clothing. A small living allowance is offered to cover food costs. Mandatory training (will be provided) includes: Firearms Safety, Bear Awareness, Aircraft Safety, and Aircraft Water Ditching and Survival (including a simulated plane crash in a pool). Applicants must be able to arrive on Kodiak Island by May 10 to participate in scheduled training. For additional information about volunteering in Kodiak, please visit our website:
<http://kodiak.fws.gov/workwithus.htm>

To apply, please email a cover letter addressing the above criteria, your resume, and phone numbers for 3 references to LISA HUPP, Kodiak NWR Volunteer Coordinator (email: lisa_hupp@fws.gov; PH: 907-487-0285) and ROBIN CORCORAN, Kodiak NWR Avian Biologist (email: robin_corcoran@fws.gov; PH: 907-487-0246). **Application period:** December 28 - January 30, 2012; positions may be filled as qualified applicants are identified. Applicants will be notified about decisions by March 15, 2012